

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 International Application No.
 PCT/IB 03/01175

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 A61H1/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61H A61G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | US 3 769 969 A (NEZIK J) 6 November 1973 (1973-11-06) see the abstract figures 1,2 | 1,3-6 |
| X | US 2 738 975 A (ZABOY LOUIS G) 20 March 1956 (1956-03-20) figure 1 | 1,3-6 |
| Y | column 2, line 9 - line 56 | 1 |
| Y | | 2 |
| Y | US 2 676 015 A (COURTNEY WILLIAM F) 20 April 1954 (1954-04-20) figures 1,2 | 1 |
| | —/— | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

A document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 June 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

25/06/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

 European Patent Office, P.O. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Josten, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/IB-03/01175

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y | <p>US 4 103 681 A (SHANLEY BERNARD J) 1 August 1978 (1978-08-01) cited in the application figure 2 column 1, line 63 -column 2, line 5 column 3, line 42 - line 55</p> | 2 |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information Publication No
PCT/IB 03/01175

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| US 3769969 | A | 06-11-1973 | NONE | |
| US 2738975 | A | 20-03-1956 | NONE | |
| US 2676015 | A | 20-04-1954 | NONE | |
| US 4103681 | A | 01-08-1978 | NONE | |

BEST AVAILABLE COPY